

**DECLARATION FOR UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION**

Declaration submitted with initial filing

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (only if one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

"METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR FINANCING NATURAL GAS UTILITY INVENTORIES  
IN UNDERGROUND RESERVOIRS",

the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following registered practitioner(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

**Customer Number 20594**

Direct all correspondence to Customer Number 20594

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application or any patent issued thereon.

<b>Name of Sole or First Inventor</b>			
<i>Given Name (first and middle [if any])</i>		<i>Family Name or Surname</i>	
Paul Robert		Sprehe	
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<i>Inventor's Signature</i> Paul Robert Sprehe		<i>Dated</i> 3-10-01	